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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., SEPTEMBER 28, 1912.

WHOLE NO. 78

CIGARMAKER'S CONVENTION

Baltimore, Sept. 28.—The International Cigarmakers' Union opened its first convention in sixteen years in this city on September 17. President Perkins' report dealt with every phase of the organization and incorporated many historical events. President Perkins said: "The first organization of cigarmakers, according to available history, was in Cincinnati in 1845, and it is claimed that some sort of an organization has been in continual existence in that city. The next place to organize was Baltimore, Md., where an organization was effected in 1851. The first recorded strike was in that city. At that time Baltimore was one of the centers of the cigar industry. As a result of the strike the industry was moved northward and quickened in New York and other points in the Eastern States. One of the first big strikes was against the introduction of molds. Low dues and no benefits and no funds was the prevailing rule until 1879. Under the rule of low dues and no benefits the membership fluctuated and was largely governed by trade conditions." The report shows that in 1869 there were 5,800 members, with a continuous decrease in membership until 1877, when the entire membership only numbered 1,016. A revival took place in 1879, which showed 1,250 members. From 1879 to 1881 the membership increased to 12,400 members, and then maintained a steady increase each year until 1904, when the membership reached 41,536. The real progress of the international union started with the inauguration of the system of high dues and a chain of benefits in 1879. For June, 1912, the number of members reported on the monthly financial reports reaches a total of 49,512. It must be remembered in considering this report that the organized cigarmakers have been compelled to combat one of the most gigantic corporations in the entire world, the Tobacco Trust, which employs in its cigar factories women and children, which has a tendency to continually force the price of labor in cigar factories to the lowest minimum. Notwithstanding this fact, however, the cigarmakers have been able to secure accessions to the International Cigarmakers' Union, with a corresponding increase in wages and betterment of working conditions.

The International Cigarmakers' Union is comprised of 488 local unions, the largest number of local unions ever affiliated in the history of the organization. Of the 385 applications for increase in wages approved since the last report, September 1, 1901, involving 33,171 members, 22,140 of whom were entitled to benefits, also 3,070 nonunionists, a fraction over 86 per cent, or 314 difficulties were successful. Of the total number of strike applications approved since September 1, 1901, 1,010 in number, involving 60,510 members, a fraction over 66 per cent, were successful. In addition to the foregoing may be added that of the strikes approved, 4 1-2 per cent were compromised and in almost every instance with concessions that were favorable to the union and members thereof, which brings the percentage of successful strikes, to 74 1-2. The total amount of money paid out in strikes during the period just referred to was $810,478.47, or an average per year of $55,498.04. The grand total of benefits, including strike, sick, death and total disability, out of work, &c., amounted to, in the last thirty-two years and two months, $10,228,-842.71. In 1888 the report shows that the average length of lives of the members was thirty-one years four months and twenty days, while in 1911 the average was fifty years and one month. This shows an increase in the average length of the lives of members of eighteen years eight months and ten days since 1888, or a period of twenty-three years. In the financial statement for the year ended June 30, 1912, it is shown that the average membership in that period was 53,039, with an expenditure of $5 1-10 cents per member per year for all expenses in the conduct of the international union. In conclusion, President Perkins makes this observation: "Impatient though we and others may be for a more rapid advancement, the facts seem to be that we cannot, with any degree of permanency, go beyond the ready comprehension, acquiescence, and co-operation of the more deliberately moving mass. I believe it would be a mistake to supplant trade autonomy by forced industrialism. A closer unity of purpose, with the ultimate unity of action in view, should always be encouraged in each industry. The same principle should be the rule and policy to be applied in the American Federation of Labor. The American Federation of Labor is sometimes flippantly spoken of as a rope of sand when its critics seek to point out its alleged weakness. Because the Federation does not attempt to dictate to or control the internal workings of its constituent bodies by drastic action, supervision, &c., this is, in the eyes of some, an element of weakness. This very alleged element of weakness really constitutes the unseen binding force, and was largely instrumental in building up and holding intact the American Federation of Labor, the greatest organization of labor's federated forces that the world has ever produced."

APPEAL IS VOLUMINOUS.

Washington, Sept. 28.—Owing to the volume of the record in the contempt proceedings against President Gompers, Vice President Mitchell, and Frank Morrison, Chief Justice Clabaugh, of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, has granted an extension of time in which to present to the Court of Appeals the record on appeal from the late contempt decision of Justice Wright. It will be remembered that at the conclusion of the recent contempt case the federation officials were subjected to a reimposition of the former sentences assessed by Justice Wright. The bill of exceptions taken by the federation officials to the rulings of Justice Wright during the hearing of the case comprise a voluminous document. It is expected that the corrected bill will be presented to Justice Wright for signature some time in October. The extension of time granted does not expire until November 1. The case, therefore, will not be docketed, in all probability, in the Appellate Court until near the expiration of the extension. In the ordinary course, hearings will not likely take place on the appeal until the early part of next year.

ASK SATURDAY HALF HOLIDAY.

Fitchburg, Mass., Sept. 28.—The Massachusetts State Federation of Labor has passed a resolution demanding that the legislature pass a bill calling for a Saturday half-holiday without loss of pay the year round for all laborers and mechanics in the employ of the Commonwealth.

CARRY PERSONS WITH SAFETY.

London, Sept. 28.—Sir Edgar Speyer at a recent meeting of the underground electric railways made the statement that 800,000,000 passengers had been carried without a single fatality since the opening of the tube and the electrification of the district railway.

THE SITUATION IN A TANGLE

Washington, Sept. 28.—As an example of peculiar legislation, which frequently finds its way into appropriation bills while they are in conference between the two Houses of Congress, the so-called newspaper publicity provision of the new post-office appropriation bill is one in point. The officials of the Post-office Department have been trying to devise a scheme to make the law workable, but have been unable to satisfy themselves and have put the question up to the Attorney General. There are 28,144 newspapers and periodicals enjoying the second class rate privilege, and one publisher directs attention to the fact that the law denies mail privileges to any newspaper or periodical which fails to answer a string of questions about the circulation, ownership, management, and other things. This publisher wants to know whether a person inclosing such information in a sealed envelope and mailing it in the first-class mail will be violating the law. The department answered to the effect that it suposed it would. Again the question of book reviews and passes to theaters has been raised in connection with the requirement that all editorials and reading matter shall be plainly marked "Advertising," for the publication of which "money or other valuable consideration is paid, accepted or promised." The department replied that if a notice were published in consideration of anything of value it would come within the meaning of the law. The Attorney General will be called upon to answer the question of a publisher who wants to know whether a theatrical criticism published by a paper which has accepted a pass to the theater is a violation of the law. It is believed that should the law be strictly complied with most of the papers throughout the country will have to go out of business. For instance, reading notices printed in consideration for the giving of an advertisement or in connection with business orders accepted by a printing plant must be marked plainly "Advertisement" under the law. Officials of the Post-office Department are inclined to think that this is a serious infringement on the freedom of the press, and they are also dubious about the right of Congress to interfere with copies of newspapers which do not enter the mails at all, as in the case of the big city dailies. There are many angles of the law which, if strictly enforced, would make it almost impossible for publications to continue. No doubt this subject will be taken up at the next session of Congress and the defects remedied.

CANADA'S LABOR CONGRESS.

Guelph, Canada, Sept. 28.—The report of the secretary-treasurer at the recent meeting of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress showed receipts during the last year of $15,699.79, and expenditures of $10,219.82, the membership paying per capita tax being 66,128, in addition to which there are two provincial federations of labor and forty-four trades and labor councils. During the year five of the latter were chartered, as well as seven federal unions, and the membership increased 8,869. A resolution was passed by the Congress condemning the Lemieux act, providing it turns out in the future that judicial decisions under the act similar to that rendered by a judge in the Province of Nova Scotia, determining that feeding starving men on strike is contrary to the act. President Watters had no opposition for re-election. P. M. Draper was re-elected secretary-treasurer. John Bruce, of Toronto, was elected fraternal delegate to the next convention of the American Federation of Labor, and P. M. Draper was elected fraternal delegate to the British Trade Union Congress. Montreal secured the meeting of the Congress for next year. During the meeting of the Congress "the manifesto of the Socialist party of Canada," says the Toronto Lance, "was distributed in the hall, but as the pamphlets did not bear the union label the convention unanimously voted to throw it out." The Congress voted to give the president of the Congress a salary of $1,800 a year, exclusive of traveling expenses. The convention, as a whole, was successful, with a good delegate attendance.

FRAUDULENT LABEL USERS.

Erie, Pa., Sept. 28.—Two well-known merchant tailors, doing busines in this city, are each under $1,000 bail to appear before the constituted authorities to answer charges for the fradulent use of union labels. The two men were arrested pursuant to information filed by the president of the local Journeymen Tailors' Union. The Central Labor Union is assisting, and is determined that a stop shall be put to the illegal use of the union label, a practice which, it is declared, has been in vogue in this city for years. Numerous complaints have been received of nonunion tailoring shops placing the union label of the Garment Workers and Tailors in clothing. Efforts have been made heretofore to secure necessary evidence to insure the conviction of the law violators, but up to recently have been unsuccessful. It is now believed that sufficient evidence has been secured to warrant conviction which will effectually stop the illegal use of the labels in this city in the future.

WANDERING STREET CARS.

Duluth, Minn., Sept. 28.—There is a street-car strike in this city, and it has assumed a humorous phase. As is well known, wherever street cars companies employ strike-breakers, no discipline is possible. The prospects of participating in a strike as a strike-breaker appeals to the evil minded from the fact that it means the handling of at least some cash without being held responsible for a strict accounting. In Duluth, however, the strike-breakers are having considerable sport by running the cars wherever they see fit, turning down first one street and then another, so that passengers have no assurance in taking their usual cars that they will reach their destination, except by a circuitous route. Intoxicated crews have been reported, and in one instance the police forced two men to leave their car at the barn, and one strike-breaking motorman was arrested for speeding a car through the city. This is another instance of the inconsideration and absolute disregard of street companies to the interest of the public.

DRIVERS GET INCREASE.

Boston, Mass., Sept. 28.—Milk wagon drivers have secured a new agreement with all but one of the large employers, which secures for every member—route boss, driver, or helper—a wage increase of $1 per week, to go into effect at once, and betterment in hours and rules. The drivers now receive $19 per week.

RAILROAD CARMEN GROWING.

Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 28.—Secretary Weeks, of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen of America, reports that application for charter for a lodge at Elkins, W. Va., with about sixty-five members, has been received and charter granted.

EMPLOYER THAT MERITS COMMENDATION—ATTITUDE DESERVES EMULATION

Washington, Sept. 28.—Collier's, the widely known publication house, and the publishers of Collier's, one of the most widely circulated weekly publications in the United States, has been placed in an unenviable position not of its own making. P. F. Collier, the founder of the present business, was a pioneer in the field in supporting trade unionism, having recognized the unions in his establishment from the very beginning. It is also asserted upon good authority that at a meeting of employers many years ago to consider the requests of their employes for a betterment of conditions, Mr. Collier was instrumental in securing for the employes the advance which they asked, and further prevailed upon a number of publishers to contribute $200 per week each for ten weeks to help the union men extend their organization to other publishing houses. P. F. Collier died on April 24, 1909, and has been succeeded by Robert J. Collier, the present head of the business.

In New York City there has been a refractory union of the International Brotherhood of Bookbinders, and the regular organization has endeavored to induce this rebel organization to conform to the organic law of the international union, but without success. The International Brotherhood of Bookbinders then took action in convention and warned the rebellious union that unless it complied with the mandates of the convention it would not be recognized as a constituent body of the international union. The local union refused, and the executive council of the International Brotherhood of Bookbinders put into effect the mandates of the last convention of the brotherhood and informed Collier's of its decision. Collier's, true to its former course, recognizing only legitimate and bona fide trade union organizations, complied with the decision of the International Brotherhood of Bookbinders. In a statement issued by Robert J. Collier to his employes, the following is a summary:

"As far as I know, this is the first time there has been a strike in this house. For nearly forty years my father and myself have conducted this business on terms of friendship with our employes. It was his pride, as it is mine, that P. F. Collier & Son were the first publishers to recognize union labor; the first to raise wages; the first to shorten hours; the first to improve conditions of work. It seems strange that our first strike should be on no question of wages, or labor, or working conditions, and that it should affect only a small portion of our working men and women, but it is stranger still to find that it is a strike where the employes are fighting against union labor and the house is fighting for union labor. You men and women now on strike have no complaint against your treatment by this house, but you are willing to set back the cause of unionism throughout this country by rebelling against the deliberate rulings of the executive council. How can you expect employers to respect organizations of labor if you do not yourselves respect them? You have been warned by a convention of your own people that if you did not join the International Brotherhood of Bookbinders you would be considered nonunion men. That decision leaves me no choice. This will be a union shop, and every man who works here must be a union man. If you choose to desert the cause of unionism for some selfish purpose, or because of ignorant leadership, that is your own affair. I shall close every department of this factory and keep them closed a year rather than break down this house's tradition of fidelity of the cause of union labor. Upon the large number of faithful employes who are still working I urge that they persuade their striking friends to come back to work; but I give them my word that there will be no retreat from this position. Collier's will remain a union shop."

A declaration of this character, coming as it does from the presiding genius of a large mercantile institution, is worthy of the highest commendation, and is a tribute to the high-mindedness and sympathy of Mr. Collier. Unlike the ordinary circumstance of this character, which is usually taken advantage of to destroy the efficiency of not only the union involved, but of other unions, this instance, in itself, pays a glowing tribute to the publicaion house of Collier's.

CONTEMPLATED SIZE OF NEW CURRENCY.

Washington, Sept. 28.—The border around this article is the exact size of the new currency in contemplation by the Treasury Department. The size of the bill will be reduced approximately one-third. If the present plans are carried out this new sized currency will take the place of all currency now in circulation. The intended size is exactly that of the Spanish peso. Currency is printed in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing by the plate printers. The law in reference to the printing of currency requires that money be printed from "four-subject" plates. By the reduction in size of the currency there is sufficient room for an additional subject on the present size plates. The question now arises as to whether there is going to be the same protection against counterfeiting in the smaller note as there is in that of the present size. The reduction in the size of the note makes it more difficult to produce an engraving which will defy counterfeiting as well as the larger note. It is stated that the designs for the smaller notes have been greatly simplified, materially reducing the size of the portraits used. Experts in detecting spurious currency claim that the larger the size of these portraits, the more difficult it is to counterfeit, thus it will be seen that with the reduction in the size of the portraits greater opportunities are to be presented for the use of spurious notes. It will be remembered that provision has already been made to use power presses in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and with the introduction of smaller currency, there seems to be a question as to whether the volume of business, which naturally increases with the growth of the country, will be sufficient to maintain the present force employed in the Bureau.

NOT UNION CONCERN.

Washington, Sept. 28. — The Whitehead-Hoag Company, manufacturers of badges, buttons, and other advertising novelties, is not a union concern. There are employed a very small number of union men in the factory, but the great body of the employes do not belong to any union. Efforts have been made many times to unionize this concern, but without avail. Labor papers and other publications are printing flattering notices to the effect that the firm mentioned is strictly union and that it has the members of twenty different organizations in its employ, and, further, that this company operates a union shop. In the interest of truth and justice it is hereby stated that this company is not recognized as a union concern, for the very good reason that the great majority of its employes are not members of any accredited union. There are firms manufacturing this class of goods that employ only union men and women. A list of these union badge, button, and novelty manufacturers will be furnished upon application to the headquarters of the American Federation of Labor.

NOTICE!

Washington, Sept. 28.—Additional copies of the American Federation of Labor Weekly News Letter, containing Labor's 1912 political programme, will be supplied upon application. Numerous requests have been made in correspondence, and this notice is for the purpose of informing those who desire extra copies that same can be had upon application to the headquarters of the American Federation of Labor.

OFFICERS NOMINATED.

Washington, Sept. 28.—The United Brotherhood of Carpenters in convention on Tuesday, September 24, nominated the following officers: For president, James Kirby and William G. Schardt, both of Chicago, and James Ryan, of Philadelphia. For first vice president, A. A. Quinn, Perth Amboy, N. J., and A. M. Schwartz, Pittsburg. For vice president, J. D. McKinley, Chicago; W. L. Hutchinson, Saginaw, Mich., and P. J. Carlson, Moline, Ill. For general secretary, Frank Duffy, Indianapolis, and Robert W. L. Connelly, Ensley, Ala. For general treasurer, Thomas Neil, of Indianapolis, and Oliver Collins, of New York. Members of the general executive board, delegates to the American Federation of Labor, and Building Trades, were also nominated.

GOOD ORGANIZATION WORK.

Fargo, N. Dak., Sept. 28.—In the past few weeks there have been organized in this city the sheet metal workers, butcher workmen, and the journeymen horse shoers, this work having been accomplished by Organizer A. W. Bowman, local organizer and member of the Typographical Union. Efforts are being made to thoroughly organize the town, with prospects favorable for doing so.

UNIONS PAY DIVIDENDS.

Washington, Sept. 28.—By reducing the report of Secretary Frank Duffy to the convention of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, now in session in this city, to definite accomplishments, it is a revelation. While it is impossible to reach an absolutely accurate result, yet the report is not difficult of approximation. Nearly all of the local unions have reported an increase in wages and shortening of hours wherever this result has been attained. Trade movements of the carpenters have been general, and in amplifying the report it is found that in a large number of cities there has been an average increase in the daily wage, taking into consideration the shortening of hours without reduction in pay, of 38.4 cents. On an approximated membership of 200,000 this yields an advance in wages of $76,800 per day. Computed on 309 working days in the year, this increase yields $22,631,200 as a record for one year. When it is taken into consideration that the total sum expended by the Brotherhood in the year under consideration was only $701,-166.67, it is revealed that the United Brotherhood of Carpenters is paying a dividend to its members unparalleled by any corporate body engaged in the mercantile or any other business in the entire world. It is an argument in favor of the organization of the workmen that cannot be controverted.

PEONAGE STILL EXISTS.

Philadelphia, Sept. 28.—A party of 121 men of this city went to Johnstown, Pa., during August to accept employment in a steel mill. Of the number who went all but 20 have returned, the majority having refused to work under conditions as they found them in Johnstown. A member of the party says they were promised railroad fare and board, but when they were ready to leave Philadelphia a guard was placed on the train to see that none of them left. After working about three weeks they demanded their money and were told that none was coming to them, which resulted in the majority refusing to work any longer. The campaign being conducted by the American Federation of Labor in its effort to organize the steel mills is having the effect of injecting considerable more independence into the workmen employed by these mills than previously. Men are exceedingly scarce, and the Steel Trust is having much difficulty in securing employes to remain any considerable length of time.

KIER HARDIE ON UNIONS.

Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 28.—Before a large audience in this city recently, J. Keir Hardie, a Socialist member of the British Parliament, among other things, made this statement, and it is interesting in view of the fact that many political enthusiasts discredit the trade unions wherever it is possible to do so: "I am told—I have not heard it yet myself, remember—but I am told that in some parts of these States, just as in some parts of Europe, there are men that are Socialists who seek to belittle trade unionism or labor unionism. I say to you that the man who seeks to belittle the trade union is no friend of yours; that all the progress which the working class has made hitherto has been through their labor unions. The strike, my friends, has been the weapon; fear of the strike and the strength which union gives has been the weapon which has brought whatever improvement has been secured by the working class of the world. Therefore, do not let any one mislead you into a belief that the day of the union is over. It is not over. It is the very foundation upon which the whole superstructure of industrial liberty will one day be reared."

"BILL" HUBER RETIRES.

Washington, Sept. 28.—William D. Huber, for thirteen years president of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, declined to enter the race again for the presidency. During the incumbency of Mr. Huber the organization has grown from a stripling to a giant in the labor world. In appreciation of the service which Mr. Huber has rendered as president of the organization, the convention presented to him in recognition of his long and faithful service the sum of $2,500.

AGREE TO SHORTER HOURS.

Boston, Mass., Sept. 28.—It is announced by the officers of the Boston power-house shop and mechanical branch of the street carmen's union that a new schedule of shorter hours for the power-house and shop will go into effect September 28. A committee from this organization conferred with the Boston Elevated Railroad officials and a shorter week was agreed upon. The men will have a nine-hour day, the first five working days of the week, and will work from 7 to 11:45 a. m. on Saturday. There is a rumor that the Elevated is preparing to put the nine hours in ten a day as its platform schedule for the motormen and conductors, and thus the strike of the street carmen in Boston has produced tangible and continuous results.

AUGMENT FIREARM STRIKERS.

Hartford, Conn., Sept. 28.—More than 300 employes of the Colt Manufacturing Company, makers of firearms, are on strike. The strike began some time ago with a walk-out of 300 men, who objected to the installation of a so-called "efficiency" system, which, it is claimed, means more work for the same wages. The original strikers were joined by 300 more workmen when the company declined to meet a committee to arbitrate the wage scale.

BUSINESS AGENT'S RIGHTS

New York, Sept. 28.—Supreme Court Justice Crane, of Brooklyn, has denied the motion of a contractor for an order adjudging a business agent of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters in contempt for notifying members of that organization that they should stop work for him on a building. The business agent was enjoined last spring from "injuring the contractor's business or interfering with any of his work." The contractor claimed that the business agent's action was a violation of the injunction. In denying the motion Justice Crane said: "The courts cannot compel men to work, and they can leave for any reason they see fit, or without reason, and if it be that the carpenters in this case desire to comply with the rules and regulations of their Brotherhood, there is no law that can prevent them or prevent the business agent from informing them that they were using non-union material. The men themselves state that they left the work voluntarily as soon as they knew the material was non-union."

REPORT OF RETAIL PRICES.

Washington, Sept. 28.—A bulletin just issued by the United States Bureau of Labor presents for each of thirty-nine of the most important industrial cities in the various sections of the United States the retail prices of the principal articles of food, the weight of principal brands of bakers' bread, the retail prices of anthracite and bituminous coal for household use, and the net price of gas for household use. The reports summarizes data previously published, and furnishes a comparison of the retail prices of food from 1890 to June, 1912, and prices of coal and gas from 1907 to June, 1912. The cities included in this report are important industrial cities, representing thirty-two States. The grade of articles of food quoted is that sold in each city in stores patronized largely by families of American, English, Irish, German, and Scandinavian wage-earners. It is impossible to give in detail the increased cost of food in the News Letter, owing to the lack of space, which is obvious. However, it is noted that sirloin steak increased in price from 1890 to 1911 35.9 per cent; round steak, 56.4; rib roast, 40.4; pork chops, 76.5; smoked bacon, 104.4; smoked ham, 58.6; pure lard, 47.5; hens, 47.5; white flour, 16.1; cornmeal, 45.3; strictly fresh eggs, 49.8; creamery butter, 32.4; Irish potatoes, 44; fresh milk, 32.2 per cent. The comparison between the food prices of 1911 and those of 1912 show a still further increase.

WIN ALL DEMANDS.

Rock Island, Ill., Sept. 28.—The employes of the Rock Island Southern recently, after endeavoring to secure an amicable agreement and a raise in wages, went on strike. During the progress of the negotiations the company offered a compromise for the demands of the men, but at the same time began recruiting strike breakers. Upon learning that the company was playing for time, a strike was called. The miners employed in the mines which the Rock Island Southern also own, went out with the strikers. Owing to the inability of the company to secure sufficient strike breakers, a conference was called for and a settlement secured. While there was perfect order among the men, the company had their property guarded with armed riflemen, and procured all the accoutrements of war. The management of the company endeavored to induce the employes to return to work, assuring a settlement after work had been commenced, but the committee representing the employes refused to return until a settlemen had been reached. A number of nonunion men were involved in the strike, but all have secured a 10 per cent increase in pay, and are back at work.

STRIKE HAS BEEN AVERTED.

Norfolk, Va., Sept. 28.—An agreement has been reached and signed by both sides to the controversy settling the wage and other questions which have been in dispute for some weeks between the Norfolk and Western, Chesapeake and Ohio, and Virginian railways and the trainmen of these railroads. The trainmen were fighting for a 15 per cent and 16 per cent wage increase. There were some concessions made, which brought about the final agreement. The settlement came through the mediation of the United States Commissioner of Labor, Charles P. Neill. The statement issued after the agreement was signed was to the effect that all questions at issue were agreed upon, and an oral statement was added that the monetary basis upon which the settlement was effected could not be stated, as certain details remained to be worked out at a conference between representatives of the individual roads involved in the general settlement and the trainmen in their employ.

FEAR COAL FAMINE.

Washington, Sept. 28. — Information from various sources is to the effect that there will soon be a shortage in anthracite coal. It is claimed that during the suspension in the anthracite fields a large number of foreigners who had previously worked in the mines returned to their European homes and have not returned. In New York, so it is claimed, it is next to impossible to get other than pea coal and bituminous coal. Another reason assigned is that the railroads are blamed for this shortage, the claim being that most of the available coal is being shipped to the West and Northwest, where a better price for it is obtained. Rumor has it that as soon as cold weather commences the price of anthracite coal will take the wing and reach an exceedingly high price.

LABOR WINS AGAIN.

Philadelphia, Pa., Sept. 28.—The box makers and teamsters of two factories of this city, after a strike of two weeks, have returned to work. The strikers were granted all their demands and were assured that further concessions will be granted the first of next year. The teamsters secured an increase of $1 per week, and the other employes secured a reduction of 2 1-2 hours per week, and at the beginning of next year it is understood that a still further reduction in hours will be granted. The firm took back all strikers without discrimination. The strikers were unorganized.

LOCK OUT UNION PAINTERS.

El Paso, Tex., Sept. 28.—Recently two firms in this city inaugurated a lockout against its union painters and paper-hangers, but it only affects a few mechanics. The lockout was due to a notice having been given by the employes that they desired the union shop, which had been conceded by other employers in the same line of business in the city. It is believed that the lockout will be of short duration.

A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT

Washington, Sept. 28.—Secretary Frank Duffy, of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, submitted to the biennial convention of that organization, now being held in Washington, one of the most comprehensive reports ever presented to the international organization. It shows that during the two-year period closing June 30, 1912, 325 local unions were organized, with 301 local unions either lapsed or consolidated, making a total gain in the number of unions of 24, with a total at the end of the fiscal year of 1,849 local unions. The State which contains the greatest numerical strength in the Brotherhood is Illinois, with 163 local unions and a membership of 29,628. New York is a close second, with 200 local unions and a membership of 29,038. California registers as third, with 96 local unions and 16,339 members. Massachusetts comes fourth, with 145 local unions and a membership of 15,995. Pennsylvania is fifth, with 142 local unions, with a membership of 13,818. The remainder of the membership is scattered in various States of the Union, the Hawaiian Islands, Canada, and Alaska. A table is also given showing the annual growth of the organization in each year since 1881. Perhaps the most comprehensive and enlightening information is contained under a report giving the list of local unions in the Brotherhood, the meeting place, time of meeting, hours of labor, wage scale, Saturday half-holiday, and local unions that have local agreements in effect. These statistics show that the United Brotherhood of Carpenters have established the eight-hour work day in over 90 per cent of the cities and towns where local unions are chartered, with a very large per cent of these unions having secured the Saturday half-holiday. There is also given in detail the statement of stock on hand at headquarters, together with a general inventory of the furnishings and fixtures of the Carpenters' Building in Indianapolis. Another statistical table was presented showing the result of trade movements sanctioned by the general executive board, in the great majority of which success is reported. Two hundred and thirty-five trade movements were sanctioned by the general executive board, of which 181 were successful, fifteen partially successful, and thirty-nine pending or postponed. Benefits paid out during the biennial period, comprising members' beneficial claims, members' disability claims, members' semi-beneficial claims, and wives' funeral donations, consisting of 1,360 claims, aggregated the sum of $172,802.37. The cost to each member of the Brotherhood in liquidating these claims only amounted to 24.1 cents for the two years. The total receipts of the organization during the period under consideration amounted to $1,341,532.46, while the disbursements during the same period reached $1,402,353.35. The United Brotherhood contributed through its local unions to the McNamara defense fund $15,007.26. At the close of the fiscal year on June 30, 1912, the United Brotherhood had in cash $264,243.77; real estate at Indianapolis, Ind., $74,407.57, and also real estate at Nederland, Tex., and Sulphur, Okla., valued at $350, making the assets of the Brotherhood aggregate [illegible]. There was received as interest upon deposits during the two-year period $18,-279.62. For organizing work $263,474.35 was paid, which emphasizes the fact that the results achieved by the United Brotherhood were in large part due to its expenditure for organizing work, thus resulting in the establishment of a large number of local unions, as well as making successful a large number of trade movements reported for the two-year period.

REFUSE TO PARTICIPATE.

Charleston, W. Va., Sept. 28.—A meeting was recently called here for the purpose of considering the big mine strike in this State. The meeting resulted in a failure on account of the proposition submitted by the mine operators of the State publicly declaring the terms upon which they would enter and participate in the meeting, they refusing to join the conference providing the representatives of the United Mine Workers were permitted to participate. Commercial, civic and industrial bodies were represented by delegates and the Governor of the State opened the meeting, declaring that it was the purpose to consider plans through which industrial disputes in the State could be solved through boards of arbitration or conciliation. The coal operators declared they were unwilling to participate in a conference unless the conference was limited to citizens of West Virginia, and no one else permitted to take part, and that the participation of the operators in the conference was not to be taken as a recognition of the United Mine Workers. This last move by the operators indicates that they are determined to continue their opposition to the organized coal miners.

PRESSMEN ON STRIKE.

Portland, Oreg., Sept. 28.—Recently the pressmen and feeders in the job offices in this city presented a new scale to the employers providing for an increase of 50 cents per day for the pressmen and 25 cents per day for the feeders. The officials of the pressmen attempted to secure a conference with the employers, but failed, and the pressmen and feeders went on strike. Thirteen of the shops are now paying the new scale, while five companies are standing out against it. The Typothetae is seeking to establish the open shop, and the allied printing trades are considerably concerned over the present outlook. In two of the strike-bound shops the printers have also been locked out. From present indications it appears that in the five shops mentioned all of the allied printing trades may eventually be involved.

WAGE INQUIRY STARTED.

Washington, Sept. 28.—Presiding Judge Martin A. Knapp, of the Commerce Court, and Dr. Charles P. Neill, Commissioner of Labor, mediators under the Erdman act, in an effort to adjust the controversy over the wages between the Southern Railway and other roads operating in the South and their trainmen and conductors, are in conference with both sides to the controversy. No decision has been arrived at, and it is quite probable that none will be for some little time to come.

UNION MEN NOMINATED.

Everett, Wash., Sept. 28.—At the recent primaries a number of union men were nominated for various State offices. J. E. Campbell was nominated for the State Senate, Fred K. Overman for State Representative, Donald McRae, of Marysville, for Sheriff, and John M. Norland also for Sheriff.

LABORERS GET CENT INCREASE.

South Bethlehem, Pa., Sept. 28.—It is said that 2,000 laborers at C. M. Schwab's Bethlehem Steel Works were recently given an increase in wages of 1 cent per hour.

Labor's 1912 Political Programme

The American Federation of Labor, at its convention last November, unanimously adopted the following instructions to the Executive Council of the A. F. of L.:

"The Executive Council is hereby further authorized and directed to take such further action as its judgment may warrant to secure the enactment of such legislation at the forthcoming session of Congress as shall secure the legal status of the organized movement of the wage-workers for freedom from unjust discrimination in the exercise of their natural, normal, and constitutional rights through their voluntary associations.

"And the Executive Council is further authorized and directed that in the event of a failure on the part of Congress to enact the legislation which we herein seek at the hands of Congress and the President to take such action as in its judgment the situation may warrant in the Presidential and Congressional elections of 1912."

The Executive Council of the A. F. of L., having these instructions under consideration, submitted to the national conventions of the Democratic and Republican party planks directly affecting the rights and interests of the working people of America. The propositions submitted to both party conventions were identical. We here republish the declarations of the Democratic, Republican, and the Progressive party (the latter party having been instituted after the close of the two other party conventions), in so far as they directly affect or refer to the rights and interests of the working masses. They are as follows:

REPUBLICAN PARTY'S DECLARATION

"The Republican party is now, as always, a party of advanced and constructive statesmanship. It is prepared to go forward with the solution of those new questions which social, economic, and political development have brought into the forefront of the nation's interest. It will strive, not only in the nation, but in the several States, to enact the necessary legislation to safeguard the public health; to limit effectively the labor of women and children; to protect wage-earners engaged in dangerous occupations; to enact comprehensive and generous workmen's compensation laws in place of the present wasteful and unjust system of employers' liability, and in all possible ways to satisfy the just demand of the people for the study and solution of the complex and constantly changing problems of social welfare.

"In dealing with these questions, it is important that the rights of every individual to the freest possible development of his own powers and resources, and to the control of his own justly acquired property, as far as those are compatible with the rights of others, shall not be interfered with or destroyed. The social and political structure of the United States rests upon the civil liberty of the individual; and for the protection of that liberty the people have wisely, in the National and State constitutions, put definite limitations upon themselves and upon their governmental officers and agencies. To enforce these limitations, to secure the orderly and coherent exercise of governmental powers, and to protect the rights of even the humblest and least favored individual are the function of independent courts of justice.

"The Republican party reaffirms its intention to uphold at all times the authority and integrity of the courts, both State and Federal, and it will ever insist that their powers to enforce their processes and to protect life, liberty, and property shall be preserved inviolate. An orderly method is provided under our system of government by which the people may, when they choose, alter or amend the constitutional provisions which underlie that government. Until these constitutional provisions are so altered or amended, in orderly fashion, it is the duty of the courts to see to it that when challenged they are enforced. * * *

"We favor the amendment of the Federal employers' liability law so as to extend its provisions to all government employes, as well as to provide a more liberal scale of compensation for injury and death. * * *

"We pledge the Republican party to the enactment of appropriate laws to give relief from the constantly growing evil of induced or undesirable immigration, which is inimical to the progress and welfare of the people of the United States.

"We favor the speedy enactment of laws to provide that seamen shall not be compelled to endure involuntary servitude, and that life and property at sea shall be safeguarded by the ample equipment of vessels with life-saving appliances and with full complements of skilled, able-bodied seamen to operate them."

"The approaching completion of the Panama Canal, the establishment of a Bureau of Mines, the institution of postal savings banks, the increased provision made in 1912 for the aged and infirm soldiers and sailors of the republic and for their widows, and the vigorous administration of the laws relating to pure food and drugs, all mark the successful progress of Republican administration and are additional evidence of its effectiveness."

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S DECLARATION

"At this time, when the Republican party after a geration of unlimited power in its control of the Federal government is rent in factions, it is opportune to point to the record of accomplishment of the Democratic House of Representatives in the Sixty-second Congress. We indorse its action and we challenge comparison of its record with that of any Congress which has been controlled by our opponents.

"It has passed a bill to prevent the abuse of the writ of injunction.

"It has passed a law establishing an eight-hour day for workmen on all national public work. * * *

"We repeat our declarations of the platform of 1908, as follows:

"'The courts of justice are the bulwark of our liberties, and we yield to none in our purpose to maintain their dignity. Our party has given to the bench a long line of distinguished justices, who have added to the respect and confidence in which this department must be jealously maintained. We resent the attempt of the Republican party to raise a false issue respecting the judiciary. It is an unjust reflection upon a great body of our citizens to assume that they lack respect for the courts.

"'It is the function of the courts to interpret the laws which the people enact, and if the laws appear to work economic, social, or political injustice, it is our duty to change them. The only basis upon which the integrity of our courts can stand is that of unswerving justice and protection of life, personal liberty, and property. As judicial processes may be abused, we should guard them against abuse.

"'Experience has proved the necessity of a modification of the law relating to injunction, and we reiterate the pledges of our platforms of 1896 and 1904 in favor of a measure which passed the United States Senate in 1896, relating to contempt in Federal courts, and providing for trial by jury in cases of indirect contempt.

"'Questions of judicial practice have arisen, especially in connection with industrial disputes. We believe that the parties to all judicial proceedings should be treated with rigid impartiality, and that injunctions should not be issued in any case in which an injunction would not issue if no industrial disputes were involved.

"'The expanding organization of industry makes it essential that there should be no abridgment of the right of the wage-earners and producers to organize for the protection of wages and the improvement of labor conditions, to the end that such labor organizations, and their members, should not be regarded as illegal combinations in restraint of trade.

"'We pledge the Democratic party to the enactment of a law creating a department of labor, represented separately in the President's cabinet, in which department shall be included the subject of mines and mining.'

"We pledge the Democratic party, so far as the Federal jurisdiction extends, to an employes' compensation law providing adequate indemnity for injury to body or loss of life. * * *

"We rejoice in the inheritance of mineral resources unequaled in extent, variety, or value, and in the development of a mining industry unequaled in its magnitude and importance. We honor the men who, in their hazardous toil underground, daily risk their lives in extracting and preparing for our use the products of the mine, so essential to the industries, the commerce, and the comfort of the people of this country. And we pledge ourselves to the extension of the work of the Bureau of Mines in every way appropriate for national legislation with a view of safeguarding the lives of miners, lessening the waste of essential resources, and promoting the economic development of mining, which, along with agriculture, must in the future, even more than in the past, serve as the very foundation of our national prosperity and welfare, and our international commerce. * * *

"We urge upon Congress the speedy enactment of laws for the greater security of life and property at sea; and we favor the repeal of all laws, and the abrogation of so much of our treaties with other nations as provide for the arrest and imprisonment of seamen charged with desertion and violation of their contract of service. Such laws and treaties are un-American, and violate the spirit, if not the letter, of the Constitution of the United States. * * *

The law pertaining to the civil service should be honestly and rigidly enforced, to the end that merit and ability shall be the standard of appointment and promotion, rather than service rendered to a political party; and we favor a reorganization of the civil service, with adequate compensation commensurate with the class of work performed, for all officers and employes; we also recommend the extension to all classes of civil service employes of the benefits of the provisions of the employers' liability law; we also recognize the right of direct petition to Congress by employes for the redress of grievances."

PROGRESSIVE PARTY'S DECLARATION

The Progressive party demands such restriction of the power of the courts as shall leave to the people the ultimate authority to determine fundamental questions of social welfare and public policy. To secure this end its pledges itself to provide:

First. That when an act, passed under the police power of the State, is held unconstitutional under the State constitution by the courts, the people, after an ample interval for deliberaion, shall have an opportunity to vote on the question whether they desire the act to become law notwithstanding such decision.

Second. That every decision of the highest Appellate Court of a State declaring an act of the Legislature unconstitutional on the ground of its violation of the Federal Constitution shall be subject to the same review by the Supreme Court of the United States as is now accorded to decisions sustaining such legislation.

The Progressive party, in order to secure to the people a better administration of justice, and by that means bring about a more general respect for the law and the courts, pledges itself to work unceasingly for the reform of legal procedure and judicial methods.

We believe that the issuance of injunction in cases arising out of labor disputes should be prohibited when such injunctions would not apply when no labor disputes existed.

We also believe that a person cited for contempt in labor disputes, except when such contempt was committed in the actual presence of the court, or so near thereto as to interfere with the proper administration of justice, should have a right to trial by jury.

"The supreme duty of the nation is the conservation of human resources through an enlarged measure of social and industrial justice. We pledge ourselves to work unceasingly in State and nation for: Effective legislation, looking to the prevention of industrial accidents, occupational diseases, overwork, involuntary unemployment, and other injurious effects, incident to modern industry.

"The fixing of minimum safety and health standards for the various occupations, and the exercise of the public authority of State and nation, including the Federal control over interstate commerce, and the taxing power, to maintain such standards.

"The prohibition of child labor.

"Minimum wage standards for working women, to provide a 'living wage' in all industrial occupations.

"The general prohibition of night work for women, and the establishment of an eight-hour day for women and young persons.

"One day's rest in seven for all wage-workers.

"The eight-hour day in continuous twenty-four-hour industries.

"The abolition of the convict contract labor system.

"Substituting a system of prison production for governmental consumption only.

"And the application of prisoners' earnings to the support of their dependent families.

"Publicity as to wages, hours, and conditions of labor.

"Full reports upon industrial accidents and diseases, and the opening to public inspection of all tallies, weights, measures, and check systems on labor products.

Standards of compensation for death by industrial accident and injury and trade disease which will transfer the burden of lost earnings from the families of working people to the industry and thus to the community.

The protection of home life against the hazards of sickness, irregular employment and old age through the adoption of a system of social insurance adapted to American use.

The development of the creative labor power of America by lifting the last load of illiteracy from American youth and establishing continuation schools for industrial education under public control and encouraging agricultural education and demonstration in rural schools.

The establishment of industrial research laboratories to put the methods and discoveries of science at the service of American producers.

We favor the organization of the workers, men and women, as a means of protecting their interests and of promoting their progress.

"We pledge our party to establish a Department of Labor, with a seat in the Cabinet and with wide jurisdiction over matters affecting the conditions of labor and living. * * *

"The Progressive party, believing that no people can justly claim to be a true democracy which denies political rights on account of sex, pledges itself to the task of securing equal suffrage to men and women alike."

From a careful perusal of these declarations it will be observed that the National Convention of the Republican party totally ignored the questions affecting labor's demands for the principles of justice and human liberty. The declarations of the Democratic party upon these questions is a reaffirmation of its favorable platform planks of 1908, while that of the Progressive party is equally outspoken and favorable. The addresses of the Presidential nominees of these parties in connection with their candidacy and the activities of each in the past, as well as their respective parties, must also be borne in mind. The candidate of the Republican party, Mr. Taft, has accentuated his antagonism to the correction of the evil and abuse of the injunctive power and trial by jury in charges of indirect contempt. The candidates of the Democratic and of the Progressive party, Gov. Wilson and Mr. Roosevelt, have been outspoken in favor of these reforms.

Candidates and parties are to be judged by their actions in preference to their declarations. Of the Republican party, as a party, so long as it has had entire control of the legislation and the administration, it was impossible to get from it any consideration, much less action, on any fundamental question affecting the rights, interests of and the justice due to the toilers of our country, as evidenced by the deaf ear turned toward the toilers by Congress when the bill of grievances and protest were presented to the President of the United States, Mr. Roosevelt, and the President pro tem. of the Senate, Mr. Frye, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Mr. Cannon.

The failure to secure relief or consideration at the hands of the Republican party was the cause and the justification for the A. F. of L. campaigns of 1908 and 1910; and though our efforts were not crowned with success in 1908, yet, because it was the paramount issue in the campaign of that year, the principles involved were thoroughly discussed, and 6,393,182 citizens of the United States cast their votes in support of them.

Six Congressmen, trade unionists, with paid-up union cards, were elected.

In 1910 the political complexion of the House of Representatives was changed, and fifteen trade unionists were elected to Congress. But in addition to the election of fifteen trade union Congressmen, a large number of antagonistic Congressmen were defeated by the work of organized labor's campaign when they sought re-election, and men pledged to labor's demands elected in their stead.

Due to the presentation of the bill of grievances, the campaigns of 1908 and 1910, the political, legislative, and administrative atmosphere was greatly clarified, and the demands of labor found expression in laws enacted and progress in legislation made.

American Federation of Labor's Success in Securing and Advancing Remedial Legislation

We present here a report of the A. F. of L. Legislative Committee, giving in detail and in summary the laws passed and the advancement of bills in Congress:

Washington, D. C., Aug. 26, 1912.

Mr. Samuel Gompers, President American Federation of Labor.

Dear Sir and Brother: We, the undersigned Legislative Committee, submit to you herewith our final report on the status of legislation before the second session of the Sixty-second Congress.

Anti-trust and Injunction Limitation.

The Bartlett bill, H. R. 23189, which was favorably reported out of the House Committee on Labor on April 22, is on the calendar of the House. We are informed by authoritative sources that it will be one of the first measures taken up for consideration at the next session.

Compensation.

The compensation bill, applicable to employes of common carriers by railroads engaged in interstate commerce, which passed the Senate on May 6, 1912, by a vote of 64 to 15, is still in the House Judiciary Committee.

Convict Labor Bill.

H. R. 5601, which has for its purpose the protecting of fair manufacturers and free labor from convict-made goods and requiring the sale of convict-made goods to conform to the laws relative to convict-made goods in the States in which they are sold, passed the House on March 4, 1912, and was referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee, and in turn referred to a subcommittee, of which Senator Brown of Nebraska is chairman. Many efforts have been made by your legislative committee to have the subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee report this bill to the Senate, but no action has been taken.

Contempt Bill.

The Clayton bill, H. R. 22591, passed the House on July 11, a roll-call vote showing the following results: In favor, 233; against, 18. This bill is in the Judiciary Committee of the Senate. This bill provides for a trial by jury for all contempts alleged to have occurred outside of the court and so far removed from it as not to interfere with the administration of justice. The bill will be one of the first to receive the consideration of the Senate at the session beginning in December.

Department of Labor.

Mr. Sulzer's bill, H. R. 22913, creating a Department of Labor, with a Secretary, who shall be a member of the President's Cabinet and who shall have the power of mediation in trade disputes and the right to appoint conciliators in such cases when, in his judgment, it is wise to do so, but shall have no power to enforce his views upon the contending parties. This bill passed the House by unanimous vote on July 17, 1912, and was referred to the Senate Committee on Education and Labor. Senator Borah of Idaho (chairman) called a meeting of this committee for the consideration of this bill two days after the reference was made to his committee. President Gompers made a very able and lengthy argument before the committee in advocacy of the bill, whereupon the chairman was authorized to report the bill favorably to the Senate, which was done. Senator Borah called up the bill in the Senate on August 6 and asked unanimous consent for its consideration. Senator Sutherland of Utah objected to its consideration. Senator Borah called the bill up on several other occasions, but was unable to get the Senate to consider it.

Eight Hours for Dredgemen.

H. R. 18787. This bill is to correct a decision by the Supreme Court, which held that dredgemen were not laborers or mechanics, but seamen, and therefore did not come under the operation of the general eight-hour law. It passed the House on July 17, with no votes against it, and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary of the Senate by the chairman pro tem. Your Legislative Committee, learning of its reference, immediately notified Senator Borah, chairman of the Committee on Education and Labor of the Senate, where, in our opinion, the bill properly belonged, and he at once asked for a change of reference to his committee, which was agreed to. The bill was favorably reported by the committee to the Senate on August 20, and several efforts made by Chairman Borah to obtain consideration by the Senate, without avail.

The General Eight-hour Bill.

Limiting the hours of daily service of laborers and mechanics employed upon work done for the United States, or for any Territory, or for the District of Columbia, and for other purposes. This bill, H. R. 9061, was introduced in the House on May 8, 1911, and referred to the Committee on Labor. It was reported favorably by said committee on August 21, 1911, passed the House December 14, 1911, reported to the Senate April 11, 1912, and passed the Senate May 31, 1912, with one or two slight amendments; those were made in order to strengthen the constitutionality of the bill. Final passage by the House out of conference June 8, 1912. Signed by the President June 19, 1912. The pen used by the President of the United States in affixing his signature to this bill in order to make it a law was presented to President Gompers immediately after it was signed.

Injunction Limitation Bill.

The Clayton bill, H. R. 23635, was taken up for consideration and passed by the House May 14, 243 members voting in favor of its passage, 31 members voting against it. This bill was referred to the Judiciary Committee of the Senate, and, in turn, referred to a subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee. The subcommittee is composed of five Senators, as follows: Root of New York, chairman; Sutherland of Utah, Nelson of Minnesota, Republicans, and Chilton of West Virginia, O'Gorman of New York, Democrats. A number of hearings have been had by this committee, almost the entire time of the hearings being taken up by the lawyers representing the National Association of Manufacturers, the National Founders' Association, the National Erectors' Association, the Anti-Boycott Association, and a number of the large railroad corporations.

Your Legislative Committee requested Chairman Root to set an hour on July 23, when the proponents of this bill might be heard. Senator Root agreed to this, but we were subsequently notified that there were some of the members of the subcommittee out of the city, and the hearings would go over until Thursday, July 25, at 10:30 a. m. Upon the arrival of President Gompers, Congressman William B. Wilson, and other advocates of the measure, we were informed that as the Senate would go into session at 11 o'clock it would be impossible to give much time to the hearings. Numerous requests were made upon Senator Root to call his committee together, but without success, and as a consequence the following letter was sent by President Gompers to Chairman Root, which is self-explanatory:

Washington, D. C., Aug. 6, 1912.

Hon. Elihu Root, Chairman Judiciary Committee,
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir: To my utter astonishment, Mr. John Moffitt, of the American Federation of Labor Legislative Committee, just informed me that your secretary, on your authority, informed him that the subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee will not hold any further hearings at this session of Congress on the Clayton bill to regulate the issuance of injunctions, the bill which passed the House of Representatives.

If the committee is to have no further hearings upon this bill before the adjournment of Congress, two grave wrongs will be committed—one, that the Senate will not have the opportunity of considering and passing this remedial piece of legislation, rectifying the existence of grave wrongs; the other, that for months there will appear upon the record of the hearings before your committee grave charges of criminality against innocent men, men whose honor and character are above reproach. Already part of these hearings, reflecting upon honored citizens, have been circulated throughout the country. As I have already said, not only will the Senate be denied the opportunity of considering and passing the bill itself, but the charges and insinuations which the committee unfairly and unjustly permitted to be made remain unchallenged and unanswered. I should be pleased to have some definite statement from you direct in regard to this subject matter. Very respectfully yours,

SAMUEL GOMPERS,
President American Federation of Labor.

On August 9 Senator Root sent the following reply:

United States Senate,
Washington, D. C., Aug. 9, 1912.

Dear Sir: Your letter of August 6 was the first intimation which I have had that you considered time of importance in presenting an answer to the statements which have been made before the committee upon the so-called anti-injunction bill. I have, in order to give you an opportunity for such reply as you wish to make, called a meeting of the subcommittee for Tuesday, the 13th, at 12 o'clock noon, and I have directed the clerk to send you a notice, which I presume he has done.

The session of Congress has reached a point where there is no possibility whatever of securing consideration of this bill before adjournment. The Senate has been sitting of late from 10 in the morning until 11 or 12 at night for the purpose of expediting the measures which it is absolutely necessary for us to pass before adjournment, and it is quite certain that no new matters will be taken up. Very truly yours,

ELIHU ROOT.

Samuel Gompers, President, American Federation of Labor, Washington, D. C.

On the date set President Gompers, with Joseph Valentine, president, and John P. Frey, editor, of the International Molders' Union, with your committee and others, appeared and made arguments in behalf of the bill.

The wholesale charges and insinuations made by attorneys for the Erectors' Association and the National Founders' Association against the men of labor were ably and vigorously refuted by Messrs. Gompers, Valentine, and Frey.

Senator Root, chairman of the committee, thereupon notified President Gompers that his committee had decided to have no further hearings on the bill at this session of Congress, as time would not permit their giving due consideration to the measure, much less the time required by the full Judiciary Committee to pass upon the merits and demerits of the bill. Therefore further hearings were postponed until December.

Immigration.

On April 19, 1912, the Senate passed the immigration bill, S. 3175, in which it incorporated the illiteracy test, by a vote of 56 in favor to 9 against it, 30 not voting, and increased the head tax from $4 to $5. This bill was then referred to the House Committee on Immigration, which committee, after prolongel consideration, decided on June 6 to strike out all after the enacting clause and add only the illiteracy test part of the bill. Many conflicting opinions have developed in the House on this bill. A petition was circulated by Representative Dies of Texas in the House of Representatives, which received the number of names required by the rules of the Democratic party, for a party caucus for the consideration of this bill. No action was taken in caucus on account of no quorum. Many efforts have been made by your Legislative Committee to have this bill called up in the House, and in every instance we were told that other committees held the calendar, and it was impossible for the Committee on Immigration to get the call at this session of Congress. Accompanying letters on this subject are self-explanatory:

House of Representatives,
Committee on Immigration and Naturalization,
Washington, D. C., July 31, 1912.

Hon. D. E. Finley, House of Representatives.

My Dear Mr. Finley: Your esteemed favor of the 30th instant has been received. Both the Burnett bill and the Dillingham bill, as substituted by the Burnett bill, were reported to the House some time ago, and I at once introduced a resolution asking for a rule to make each of these bills in order. The Rules Committee has not granted the rule, but I have a letter from the chairman, a copy of which I herewith inclose, assuring me that the rule will be reported in the early part of next December. You will understand the fact that without unanimous consent, or a rule, the bill cannot be called up until my Committee on Immigration is reached on some calendar Wednesday. As there are a number of committees ahead of mine, I cannot say whether it will be reached at this session or not. If it is, I will be sure to call the Dillingham bill up and put on its passage. I realize how earnestly you have worked with me to try to secure the passage of the restrictive measures. You were one of the few who attended the recent caucus, in which we tried to get action binding the Democratic party to these measures. You will remember also that the enemies of the measure prevented a quorum from attending the caucus. The assurance of the Rules Committee make it certain that we will get the bill up next December, and when we do I have no uneasiness about its passage. With best wishes, I am, your friend, truly,

(Signed.) JOHN L. BURNETT,
Chairman.

House of Representatives,
Committee on Rules,
Washington, D. C., July 21, 1912.

Hon. John L. Burnett, Chairman Committee on Immigration and Naturalization, House of Representatives.

Dear Mr. Burnett: Permit me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of July 18, and to say that the same has had most careful consideration. Your request that the Committee on Rules take favorable action, so as to bring before the House the Dillingham bill, has been thoroughly considered.

On behalf of the Committee on Rules, I will say, as chairman, that early in December of the next session of this Congress, the bill will be brought by rule before the House of Representatives in order that it may be duly considered. Just at this time the condition of business before the Committee on Rules and in the House of Representatives is such as to render it impracticable to report a rule and give the bill consideration during the present session.

Thanking you for your letter, I am.

Very truly yours.
(Signed.) R. L. HENRY,
Chairman Committee on Rules.

Industrial Commission.

Known as the Hughes-Borah bill, H. R. 21094 and S. 5546. This bill is to create a commission to investigate the entire subject about employers and employes, with a view to ascertain the best methods of dealing with the problem, so as to protect the rights of all persons directly or indirectly interested. This bill passed the House by unanimous vote on July 17, and was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor of the Senate, and, in turn, reported favorably by that committee to the Senate, which passed the bill, with some amendments, on August 15. This sent the bill to conference, from which an agreement was reported August 21, and the bill therefore became law.

Post-office Appropriation Bill.

Which passed the House and carried with it an amendment providing for the elimination of the "gag" rule, for many weeks was under consideration by the Senate Committee on Post-office and Post Roads, of which Senator Bourne is chairman. There were great efforts made by government officials and others to have the amendment providing for the elimination of the "gag" rule stricken from the bill. President Gompers appeared before the committee and made a very lengthy and exhaustive argument in favor of the retention in the bill of this amendment, and we regret to say that when the post-office appropriation bill was reported out of the Senate committee we found that the "anti-gag" rule amendment was stricken from it. We urged the members of the Senate to restore the rights of petition and the rights of organization to the employes of the post-office, and are pleased to report that this was accomplished after a lengthy and stormy debate in the Senate. The relief sought has been secured.

Seamen's Bill.

H. R. 23673, passed the House with no opposing votes on its final passage on Saturday, August 3, 1912, and is now in the Senate Committee on Commerce, of which Senator Nelson of Minnesota is chairman. It was referred to a subcommittee, of which Senator Burton is chairman, and from whom no report was made. This bill is to give freedom to the seamen, to provide a standard of skill for seamanship, to equalize the operating expenses of foreign vessels with American vessels, so as to build up the American merchant marine without resorting to subsidies. It abolishes the last provisions in the law for compulsory labor within the jurisdiction of the United States, and, therefore, ceases to stand as a precedent for its extension.

For the past eighteen years strenuous efforts have been made by the American Federation of Labor and Mr. Andrew Furuseth, representing the Seamen's Union, to have this bill enacted into law, but without success. Much credit is due for its passage through the House to the Hon. William B. Wilson, because of his persistent labor with members in order to make the bill understood and the argument properly presented to the House.

Senators—Popular Election Of.

This measure, which labor has urged for many years, has passed Congress, and is now before the States for ratification as an amendment to the Constitution.

THE SUMMARY

In addition to the foregoing bills, there have been less important bills and items in appropriation bills in which labor was deeply interested passed by the House, and your Legislative Committee believes it proper at this time to give a summary of the bills and items in which labor was interested, and which passed the House at this session, as follows:

1. An effective Injunction Limitation bill.
2. The Contempt bill.
3. Convict Labor bill.
4. Department of Labor bill.
5. The amendment to the Post Office Appropriation bill, providing for the elimination of the "gag" order.
6. The Eight-hour bill.
7. An eight-hour provision is included in the Fortification bill.
8. An eight-hour provision for Post Office clerks and letter carriers included in the Post Office bill.
9. An eight-hour provision on all contracts in the Naval Appropriation bill.
10. An eight-hour bill for dredgemen.
11. An amendment to the Constitution providing for the popular election of United States Senators.
12. The Children's Bureau bill.
13. The Match bill, prohibiting the manufacture of white phosphorus matches, thus protecting the health of the workers.
14. The Seamen's bill.
15. The Bureau of Mines Act amended and strengthened.
16. The Federal Compensation for Injuries Act, amended.
17. The Industrial Commission bill.
18. The inhuman stop watch, high-speed schemes of employers to drive workmen, have been investigated and rejected by a competent committee of the House.
19. Publications by the trade unions and fraternities have been fostered by the passage through the House of the "Dodds bill."
20. By the enacting of the plate printers' bill, the people's money will be protected from the sharp practice of counterfeiters.
21. The securing of an appropriation of $20,000 from the House Appropriation Committee for a continuance of the investigation of the working conditions in the iron and steel industries by the Department of Commerce and Labor.
22. Securing an increase in salaries for employes of the Bureau of Labor.
23. Retention in the Bureau of Labor of the normal duties of the bureau.
24. Eight hours for railroad telegraphers, H. R. 25040, was reported out of the Committee of the House on Interstate Commerce on August 6, 1912, and is on the calendar of the House for early consideration at the next session of Congress; also an amendment to the Erdman act, which is in the same position.
25. Musicians' bill—House joint resolution No. 202, known as the Musicians' bill, which provides that enlisted musicians shall not come in competition with civilian musicians, has been favorably reported by the House Committee on Labor, and is now on the calendar. This will probably pass at the next session of Congress.
26. An increase of five cents per hour was obtained for the printing pressmen in the Government Printing Office at Washington, D. C. While the representatives of the printing pressmen were endeavoring to obtain an increase of ten cents per hour, your Legislative Committee assisted materially in obtaining an increase of five cents per hour. Until your Legislative Committee became interested in this item there was little or no disposition shown on the part of the members of the House or Senate to grant any increase.
27. Free smoker bill, H. R. 24741, by Mr. Peters, passed the House by unanimous vote on Tuesday, July 16, 1912.
28. Porto Rico—The Citizenship bill for Porto Rico has passed the House and is now in the Senate committee.

The bills that passed the Senate and are pending in the House are the—

1. Workmen's compensation bill.
2. Immigration bill.

The bills that passed both Houses of Congress and became law are—

1. Rights of hearing, petition, and association restored to post-office employes.
2. Popular election of Senators.
3. General eight-hour bill.
4. Eight hours in the fortification bill.
5. Eight hours in the naval bill.
6. Eight hours for letter carriers and clerks in post-offices.
7. Phosphorus match bill.
8. Children's bureau bill.
9. Extension of Federal compensation for injuries act.
10. Industrial Relations Commission.
11. Second-class rate for trade union and fraternal publications (Dodds amendment).

Respectfully submitted,

ARTHUR E. HOLDER,
JOHN A. MOFFITT,
GRANT HAMILTON,
Legislative Committee,
A. F. of L.

WE cannot express too great an appreciation of the work done in the interests of labor and humanity by the fifteen trade union members in the House of Representatives, by the Democratic members of both the House and Senate, as well as the assistance rendered by Progressive Republicans.

The Executive Council declares that the programme and policy, as carried on by the American Federation of Labor as authorized by its conventions, through the Executive Council, the Labor Representation Committee, and the organized workers throughout the country, is hereby reaffirmed and recommended to all, and urge that the programme and policy should be persistently pursued in the pending campaign of 1912 for the election of candidates for President, Congressmen, State Legislatures, and the Judiciary, in short, for all candidates for all political offices.

To our fellow-workers and fellow-citizens all over America, we urge that TRADE UNION MEN BE NOMINATED AND ELECTED to Municipal, County, and State offices; that Trade Union Men represent its interests in the State Legislatures and in Congress.

Let organized labor's slogan live in its deeds—

STAND FAITHFULLY BY OUR FRIENDS,
OPPOSE AND DEFEAT OUR ENEMIES, whether they be
Candidates for President,
For Congress or other offices, whether
Executive, Legislative, or Judicial.

Men of labor, stand true.

Fraternally yours,

SAMUEL GOMPERS, President.
JAMES DUNCAN, First Vice President.
JOHN MITCHELL, Second Vice President.
JAMES O'CONNELL, Third Vice President.
D. A. HAYES, Fourth Vice President.
WM. D. HUBER, Fifth Vice President.
JOS. F. VALENTINE, Sixth Vice President.
JOHN R. ALPINE, Seventh Vice President.
H. B. PERHAM, Eighth Vice President.
JOHN B. LENNON, Treasurer.
FRANK MORRISON, Secretary.
Executive Council A. F. of L.

A RESUMÈ

The following article, relative to the political programme inaugurated and carried on by the American Federation of Labor, is made up of copious extracts taken from the editorials and speeches of President Gompers, as well as from official documents issued by the American Federation of Labor. It records in chronological order the events political as they relate to the activities of the American Federation of Labor.

The position of organized labor upon the question of political action was clearly set forth in the following declaration, unanimously adopted by the Nashville convention of the American Federation of Labor in 1897, and reaffirmed at various times since:

"Resolved, That the American Federation of Labor most firmly and unequivocally favors the independent use of the ballot by the trade unionists and workmen, united regardless of party, that we may elect men from our own ranks to make new laws and administer them along the lines laid down in the legislative demands of the American Federation of Labor, and at the same time secure an impartial judiciary that will not govern us by arbitrary injunctions of the courts, nor act as the pliant tools of corporate wealth.

"Resolved, That as our efforts are centered against all forms of industrial slavery and economic wrong, we must also direct our utmost energies to remove all forms of political servitude and party slavery, to the end that the working people may act as a unit at the polls at every election."

Owing to the inactivity of Congress relative to remedial labor legislation, there came an insistent demand from the organized workmen, as well as the unorganized, that measures be adopted to bring forcibly to the attention of the law making branch of the government the fact that labor was unjustly suffering from discrimination in the execution of law, and further that the courts were usurping their functions by the indiscriminate issuance of injunctions in labor disputes. In 1906 the hostility of Congress and the courts reached high tide, and the presidents of all affiliated international unions were invited to meet the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor at headquarters on March 21, 1906, and participate in a conference concerning matters affecting labor's interests Congressionally and administratively. The presidents or their duly credentialed representatives participated, and unanimously and enthusiastically indorsed what is now historically known as "Labor's Bill of Grievances." This document called specific attention to the nonenforcement of laws enacted in the interest of labor, the abuse by the courts of the injunctive writ, the application of the anti-trust law to labor unions, the denial of the right of petition by government employes by Executive order, the rights of seamen, and other matters of vital interest to the workmen of our country.

This bill of grievances was presented to Theodore Roosevelt, then President of the United States; William P. Frye, then President pro tempore of the United States Senate, and to Joseph G. Cannon, then Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The presentation of this document was the opening declaration that the organized labor movement proposed to hold to account those responsible for legislation or for the failure of legislation, as well as those who had been commissioned to execute the law.

In the following June, 1906, it was determined to enter the Second Congressional District of Maine for the purpose of opposing the re-election of Charles E. Littlefield, who had been conspicuous in his hostility in Congress against every measure which sought to give labor a square deal. This campaign was the first active and formal entrance on the political field of organized labor in an effort to awaken not only the trade unionists, but the public as well, to the indifference and hostility of many of the members of the United States Senate and the House of Representatives against the just demands being insistently made for remedial legislation. The prosecution of this campaign electrified the trade unionists, and served to arouse much interest among the people at large. Congressman Littlefield was not defeated, but his usual majority of 5,000 was reduced to approximately 1,000. The fight which labor made against the Maine Congressman aroused other opposition to him, with the result that he eventually resigned his seat in Congress. Thus one of labor's most bitter antagonists was eliminated from the lawmaking branch of the government.

The Maine election occurred in September, and following the Littlefield campaign a vigorous canvass was conducted by the men of labor in other Congressional districts throughout the country in an effort to "leave at home" hostile Congressmen. Where trade unionists had secured nominations for Congress the American Federation of Labor actively assisted in the campaign for their election.

In the June, 1912, American Federationist, there appeared an editorial written by Samuel Gompers, entitled, "Elect Trade Union Congressmen," and contains an epitome of labor's struggle on the political field. Extracts therefrom are here produced:

"Fifteen members of the United States House of Representatives are trade unionists in good standing in their respective unions. The achievement of this remarkable result of three Congressional campaigns typifies the aggressiveness of the trade unionists in the Congressional districts from which these members were elected, and emphasizes the potency of well directed trade union effort.

"The year 1906 marked a concerted movement of organized labor into the field of national politics—not for the purpose of promoting the interests of any political party—but to secure representation in the popular branch of Congress by the election of trade unionists without regard to the political party with which they affiliated.

"The controlling motive which crystallized into action the political activity of organized labor was the fact that the courts persistently increased their jurisdiction and usurpation, and continued issuing their injunctions in greatly aggravated form, invading the rights and liberty of the workers, and denying the equality before the law guaranteed by the Constitution. Congress had not only been apathetic toward proposed remedial legislation affecting the interest of labor, but, among the controlling characters in the dominant party, open hostility was apparent. Members of Congress known to be hostile to the trade unions, and elected from districts where the organizations of labor were numerically small, were assigned to committeeships with the sole purpose of smothering intended legislation designed to secure relief from injustice and wrongfully administered laws. This hostility became so marked that it was decided to register a vigorous protest against the machinations of these political misrepresentatives. This slogan was adopted as Labor's Watchword.

"We will stand by our friends and administer a stinging rebuke to men or parties who are either indifferent, negligent, or hostile, and wherever opportunity affords, secure the election of intelligent, honest, earnest trade unionists, with clear, unblemished, paid-up union cards in their possession."

"This watchword of labor met with a hearty response. The records of Congressmen were scrutinized and furnished to those requesting such information, and where these records showed hostility to labor's interests, trade unionists used their influence to the end that labor's enemies might be defeated. The first contest revealed the efficacy of the effort. Six trade unionists, in full standing with their respective organizations, were elected to membership in the National House of Representatives.

"This small group signalized the direct entrance of organized labor as a factor in the lawmaking branch of the Federal government. Political faddists and theorists, of course, ridiculed the policy of trade unionists in coining their balance of power into definite results. Illusory programmes were pushed to the fore and profuse predictions were made that labor's efforts would prove abortive, but the election of six trade union Congressmen in the first contest constituted indisputable evidence that material results had been achieved.

"While the then dominant party refused to change its policy in any material way, yet the labor group made an effective impression. Organized labor was aroused to the possibilities of adding to the initial labor group, and in the elections of 1908 four additional trade unionists were successful in securing election to the House. With a group of ten trade union Congressmen, the plan of following the lines of least resistance showed results that could not go unrecognised. Congress and the public generally became convinced that Labor proposed to exercise its political rights, to the end that Congressional relief should be secured.

"The Sixty-first Congress showed a marked reduction of the dominant party's strength, and a corresponding added influence of the labor group. Hostility became tempered with some reason, a dawning realization of the power of Labor became apparent to political prophets, and a change in attitude toward Labor's demands was noticeable. While it could not be expected that the full fruition of trade union hopes could be realized with this small labor group, yet with the softening attitude of the hostile forces, brought about solely by persistent trade union vigor, with constantly increasing activity in every part of the country to the end that the labor group should be augmented, Labor's prospects were materially brightened.

"With hope and determination the trade Unionists entered the congressional campaign of 1910, and conducted a contest that is memorable in the history of our country. The result of Labor's third campaign was the still further addition of five more members, augmenting the labor group to a total of fifteen. In the present Congress, the Sixty-second, these fifteen trade union Congressmen have performed conspicuous service. The labor group has continually grown, the initial effort electing six trade unionists to Congress; the second effort, re-electing the first six and adding four more, while the third effort totaled fifteen. This gratifying result could not have been accomplished in any other way than that adopted.

"The election of the present Congress witnessed the overthrow of the dominant party in the House and a material reduction of its numerical strength in the Senate.

"The labor group has been fittingly recognized in important committee appointments. The chairman of the House Committee on Labor is a staunch and tried trades unionist, and that committee, instead of being the charnel house of labor's measures as formerly, now responds to the justice of labor's needs. Important legislation in the interest of labor has been reported out and passed, while other measures are pending.

"The House Labor Committee has done splendid work during the present session of Congress. As is well known, the chairman of that committee is W. B. Wilson, formerly secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers of America, who is not only a man of marked ability, but staunch and true to labor and all the people. Associated with him upon this committee are James P. Maher, former treasurer of the United Hatters of North America; Frank Buchanan, former president of the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, and David J. Lewis, of the United Mine Workers. The highest commendation is deserved and accorded to them. It must be noted, in addition to these union men upon the Labor Committee, that the other members of the Labor Committee are friendly and sympathetic toward labor's bills."

In the July, 1912, American Federationist President Gompers published an editorial entitled "Labor on Guard and Insistent." It follows:

"The price of liberty is intelligent knowledge and eternal vigilance. The people, and particularly the workers, cannot always trust to political mechanism or past achievements. The struggle for justice is no place for weaklings. The passive bystander may share the benefits, but he bears no burdens of the battle to secure them. If labor wants industrial and political justice and liberty, legislation and administration in the interests of the people, it must pay the price, the price of hard, constant, and persistent effort. A fair control over the preliminary movements gives strategic power in the fight. Now is the time to seize that power. Now is the time to be up and doing.

"With concentration and integration of the industrial organization government has extended the scope of its functions to control and regulate conditions of production. The degree and kind of control must be determined by the legislative body; not nullification, but application and enforcement are the domain of the executive and judicial departments. For years big business has controlled all three divisions of the State. In a democracy, such as exists, at least in theory, in the United States, the final arbiter of industrial and political relations must be the people.

"Six years ago organized labor, aroused by imminent peril to its economic freedom, made certain demands of the political parties. Unheeded, it carried the case directly to the people. Rousing and molding public opinion to an intelligent knowledge of conditions made advantageous changes in the election returns, resulting in the election of fifteen members of Congress who hold trade union membership. They are as follows:

W. B. Wilson, coal miner, Blossburg, Pa., Democrat.

Robert E. Lee, blacksmith, Pottsville, Pa., Democrat.

John A. Martin, locomotive fireman, Pueblo, Col., Democrat.

William J. Cary, commercial telegrapher, Milwaukee, Republican.

Victor L. Berger, typographical union, Milwaukee, Socialist.

William Hughes, textile workers, Paterson, N. J., Democrat.

Frank Buchanan, structural iron worker, Chicago, Democrat.

James T. McDermott, commercial telegrapher, Chicago, Democrat.

David J. Lewis, coal miner, Cumberland, Md., Democrat.

Charles B. Smith, commercial telegrapher, Buffalo, N. Y., Democrat.

Carl C. Anderson, musician, Fostoria, Ohio, Democrat.

Isaac R. Sherwood, typographical union, Toledo, Ohio, Democrat.

E. E. Roberts, metal miner, Carson City, Nev., Republican.

John R. Farr, typographical union, Scranton, Pa., Republican.

James P. Maher, hatter, Brooklyn, N. Y., Democrat.

"As a result of this achievement of organized labor politicians gave some heed to registered public opinion, but the workers, the people themselves, must be progressive. One victory must be followed by another, and then more and more, for many grave wrongs remain unrighted—many rights yet to be attained. With this purpose in view, the Atlanta convention of the American Federation of Labor passed by unanimous vote the following instructions to the executive council:

"The Executive Council is hereby further authorized and directed to take such further action as its judgment may warrant to secure the enactment of such legislation at the forthcoming session of Congress as shall secure the legal status of the organized movement of the wage-workers for freedom from unjust discrimination in the exercise of their natural, normal, and constitutional rights through their voluntary associations.

"And the Executive Council is further authorized and directed that in the event of a failure on the part of Congress to enact the legislation which we herein seek at the hands of the Congress and the President, to take such action as in its judgment the situation may warrant in the Presidential and Congressional election of 1912."

In compliance with the imperative direction of the Atlanta Convention, a committee of the Executive Council was appointed and waited upon the political parties and presented labor's demands to the platform committees. The platform declarations in reference to labor by the parties referred to are printed in this issue, and are presented for a full consideration by our fellow-workers and fellow-citizens.

Each central body, as well as each member of organized labor, has a duty to perform, and that duty is to see to it that wherever possible trade unionists should be nominated and elected to public office, and political movements should be closely watched. Political control is the result of a great system, built up of various spheres of influence. Party domination begins with a ward boss, extend to municipal, county, State, and then Federal agents. To secure agents responsive to the common welfare, organized labor must attack those agents of the interests wherever they may be intrenched. Trade unionists must determine for themselves what action they will take at the polls in the coming November. The record of political events and the utterances and actions of the candidates as affects labor are herein recorded, and the sovereignty of the voters is supreme in determining their action on these political questions in the coming Presidential and Congressional elections.

Men of Labor, stand true. Get busy.

Organized labor must see to it that trade union men are nominated and elected to municipal, county, and State offices; that trade union men represent its interests in the State Legislatures and in Congress.

Let organized labor's slogan live in its deeds—

Stand faithfully by our friends.

Oppose and defeat our enemies, whether they be

Candidates for President,

For Congress, or other offices, whether Executive, Legislative, or Judicial.

Get Busy! Stand True!

After the national conventions of the political parties had presented their platforms and candidates to the people, the American Federationist, in the closing sentences of an editorial devoted to a discussion of the platform pronouncements, had this to say:

"The workers and thinking men of our country will closely scan and compare and study carefully the respective declarations of the political parties. They will keep in mind the failure of the one and the response and good faith of the others, and at the right time, in a most effective manner, manifest their own interest by the exercise of their great privilege, the franchise.

"Of this one thing all may be sure, the men of labor have but one purpose to serve—the protection and promotion of the rights and interests of the toiling masses of our country to make for their common welfare and for the entire uplift of all our people."

Labor asks no special privilege, asks nothing but what is its just dues, industrially, politically, socially, and morally. It undertakes to achieve, and will achieve, equality before the law for all our people—to make life better worth living, to organize the yet unorganized—to organize, unite, and federate, and to see that the toiling masses of our country are more fully represented in the legislative and administrative affairs of our country, of our States and municipalities.

Organized labor must see to it that trade union men are nominated and elected to municipal, county, and State offices; that trade union men represent its interests in the State Legislatures and in Congress.

Let organized labor's slogan live in its deeds—

Stand faithfully by our friends.

Oppose and defeat our enemies, whether they be

Candidates for President,

For Congress, or other offices, whether Executive, Legislative, or Judicial.

Get Busy! Stand True!

Trade Unionists, It's Up to You.

The Presidential and Congressional elections are approaching. Labor's efforts have been rewarded by effective and tangible results. The future looks bright for additional numbers to the labor group in the next Congress. With continued fidelity to the cause of labor, future legislation of the Congress of the United States will bear the humanitarian impress of labor's high ideals. The history of the trade unions is a continuous narrative of loyalty and devotion to principle. A trade unionist in Congress, regardless of party affiliations, is a sentinel who will stand for right and justice, for all humanity.

Every State federation, city central body, and trade unionist should embrace the present opportunity to secure the election of trade unionists to Congress.

Candidates for Congress, other than trade unionists, who have, by their record either in or out of Congress, shown fidelity to the cause for which labor is contending, should receive the hearty support of all trade unionists. Let it not be said that trade unionists are ungrateful for the consistent and continuous service performed in the interest of labor by any public official when seeking re-election. Ingratitude for those who have proven true is a conspicuous characteristic of the ignoble. The trade unionist is true and will reward faithful service by his support.

Labor is not partisan to any political party, but is intensely partisan to a principle.

Don't be deluded by fanciful political programmes that assume to transport the labor movement to some Utopian land of promise. Strive for the better day to-day.

Material and actual results constitute the ethics of trade unionists.

The labor group in Congress can be doubled in the coming election if advantage is taken of the present opportunity. There is energy and vitality sufficient in our movement to accomplish greater achievements and there is ability enough to bulwark and retain any advantage which may be gained by the rank and file of organized labor. Fellow-workers, enter the pending contest with grim determination to achieve, to increase labor's representation in Congress.

Fellow trade unionists, you have ever proven true to yourselves, to your time, and to humanity. The cause of the trade unionists and humanity will be best conserved by a concerted effort to augment our loyal trade unionists now members of the legislative branch of the Government.

Men of Labor, grit your teeth, organize, unite, federate. Elect [illegible] the trade unionists to Congress. Get busy!

Members of Trade Union Labor Group in Congress

CARL CAREY ANDERSON

Carl Carey Anderson, Democrat, from the Thirteenth District of Ohio, was born at Bluffton, Ohio, December 2, 1877. He began his career as a newsboy and bootblack, and only secured a partial education. Being of a musical temperament, he became interested in orchestra work, and became a member of the American Federation of Musicians.

He has been twice Mayor of Fostoria, Ohio, and now holds the position of president of the Board of Trade, as well as president of the City Hospital Board in the city mentioned.

He was elected to the Sixty-first and re-elected to the Sixty-second Congress. Mr. Anderson is a member of two committees—the Committee on the District of Columbia, and the Committee on Invalid Pensions.

He gave his colleague, Mr. Sherwood, great assistance in securing the passage of the Sherwood pension bill.

Mr. Anderson has given his continuous and consistent support to all measures affecting labor, and is one of the valued members of the labor group in Congress.

CHARLES BENNETT SMITH

Charles Bennett Smith, from the Thirty-sixth District of New York, was born in Erie County, N. Y., on September 14, 1870. In early life he became a telegraph operator and a member of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union. He developed a taste for newspaper work, and has held many responsible positions on the newspapers in Buffalo, and is now the owner and editor of the Niagara Falls Journal. Mr. Smith enjoys the unique distinction of having been elected to the Sixty-second Congress by a plurality of one vote. Mr. Smith is a member of three committees—the Committee on Alcoholic Liquor Traffic, Committee on Indian Affairs and the Committee on Irrigation of Arid Lands.

Mr. Smith has been consistent and loyal in his support of all measures in the interest of labor.

JAMES P. MAHER

James P. Maher, Democrat, from the Third District of New York, Borough of Brooklyn, was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., November 3, 1865. He graduated in a prominent academy and then entered as an apprentice in the hatters' trade. Upon completing his apprenticeship he removed to Danbury, Conn., and worked as a journeyman hatter, and was later elected President of the Danbury Hat Makers' Society, and in 1897 was elected national treasurer of the United Hatters of North America. Returning to Brooklyn in 1902, he was nominated by the Democratic party for Congress in 1908, but was defeated, although making a splendid campaign and race. In 1910 he was again given the nomination for Congress, and was successful in securing election.

Mr. Maher is a member of two committees, the Committee on Labor and the Committee on Public Lands. Mr. Maher has supported all labor measures referred to the Labor Committee and his vote has always been recorded in the interest of humanitarian legislation, and is a stalwart member of the labor contingent.

JOHN A. MARTIN

John A. Martin, Democrat, from the Second District of Colorado, was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, April 10, 1868. He served one term prior to his coming to Congress in the Colorado Legislature. While Mr. Martin is now an attorney by profession, he formerly was a locomotive fireman, and is a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen.

Mr. Martin is a member of three committees, Committee on Expenditures in the War Department, Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, and Committee on Territories. Mr. Martin was first elected to the Sixty-first Congress, and was re-elected to the Sixty-second Congress. Especially during the Sixty-second Congress he has been exceedingly active, not only so far as labor measures were concerned, but on matters of general interest.

He is one of the ready debaters in the House, and has many times been called to the Speaker's Chair when the House was in session as committee of the whole. Mr. Martin will voluntarily retire as a member of Congress on March 4, next. It is to be regretted that a man of his ability, energy, and capacity should decide to cease his labors as a member of Congress.

JAMES THOMAS McDERMOTT

James Thomas McDermott, Democrat, from the Fourth district of Illinois, located in Chicago, was born at Grand Rapids, Mich., February 13, 1872. At the age of twelve he became a messenger boy for a telegraph company and later on learned telegraphy and followed for a number of years his vocation as a telegraph operator, and is a member of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union.

He was elected to the Sixtieth Congress and re-elected to the Sixty-first and Sixty-second Congresses.

Mr. McDermott is a member of two committees, the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Expenditures in the Department of Commerce and Labor.

Mr. McDermott has been a consistent and loyal advocate of all measures introduced on behalf of labor, and has been of valuable assistance to the members of the labor group. He has been successful in securing a renomination.

VICTOR L. BERGER

Victor L. Berger, Socialist, from the Fifth District of Wisconsin, was born at Neider Rehbach, Austria-Hungary, February 28, 1860. He has worked at various trades and has been a teacher in the public schools. He was formerly editor of the Milwaukee Daily Vorwaerts and was for many years editor of Wahrheit (German) and the Socialist Democratic Herald (English). He was one of the organizers of the Social Democratic Party and has always been high in its councils. He is also one of the three secretaries for the United States of the International Socialist Bureau at Brussels. He was elected Alderman-at-large in the city of Milwaukee in 1910, and was elected to the Sixty-second Congress the same year. He is a member of the News Writers' Union.

Mr. Berger is a member of one committee, being that of the Committee on the District of Columbia. His votes in Congress on measures affecting labor have been favorable. He has again been nominated to make the race for the Sixty-third Congress.

WILLIAM B. WILSON.

William B. Wilson, Democrat, from the Fifteenth district of Pennsylvania, was born at Blantyre, Scotland, April 2, 1862, and came to this country with his parents in 1870 and settled at Arnot, Tioga County, Pennsylvania. At nine years of age he began work in the coal mines, and upon reaching eleven years of age became a half member of the Mine Workers' Union. He has taken an active part in trade union affairs from early life, and was International Secretary Treasurer of the United Mine Workers of America from 1900 until 1908, having been re-elected each year without opposition. He has been a delegate to the conventions of the American Federation of Labor for many years, representing the United Mine Workers. In 1910 he represented the American Federation of Labor as fraternal delegate to the British Trade Union Congress. In the coal mining town where he resides—Arnot—he has always been actively identified with the coal miners' union, as well as with those of the surrounding territory. In commemoration of the valiant assistance rendered and loyalty to the interests of the coal miners of the section referred to, the mine workers have dedicated one day each year, June 18, on which work is suspended in honor of Mr. Wilson, it being familiarly known as "Wilson Day."

Mr. Wilson was elected to the Sixtieth Congress, and re-elected to the Sixty-first and Sixty-second Congresses, having been successful in three succeeding elections in defeating his wealthy Republican opponent in a district which, before the entrance into the political field of Mr. Wilson, had been normally and safely Republican. He has been renominated as a candidate for the Sixty-third Congress.

Mr. Wilson is chairman of the House Labor Committee, one of the most important committees in the House of Representatives. He is the Nestor of the labor group, and has not only the confidence of his fellow-unionists in Congress, but the admiration and good will of all members of the House, irrespective of party.

His general knowledge of the affairs of men is one of Mr. Wilson's distinguishing characteristics, and men high in the councils of the party with which he affiliates seek his advice upon important questions. His record as chairman of the Labor Committee of the House eclipses any record made by previous chairmen of this committee. The actual accomplishments of this committee thus far during the Sixty-second Congress is greater in extent and scope than the combined achievements of the Labor Committee of the House during its entire existence, from the foundation of the government up to the opening of the present Congress. Associated with Mr. Wilson upon this committee are three other trade unionists: James P. Maher of New York, David L. Lewis of Maryland, and Frank Buchanan of Illinois, who have given Mr. Wilson continuous and effective support in his committee.

Mr. Wilson is a member of three committes. As already mentioned he his chairman of the Labor Committee. In addition to this he is a member of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, as well as that of Mines and Mining. Mr. Wilson has not confined his activities to the measures referred to the Labor Committee, but has given valuable assistance in securing favorable action upon measures in the interest of labor that were, by their nature, referred to other committees of the House and Senate. He has been interested and gave valuable aid in the securing of a favorable report and the passage of the seaman's bill in the House. Mr. Wilson also rendered distinctive service in assisting in securing the adoption in the House of the Clayton injunction limitation and contempt bills which were considered favorably and reported out by the Judiciary Committee of the House.

He is also the introducer and champion of an industrial education bill, which seeks to enlarge the scope of educational institutions, and provides an opportunity for the youth of the country to acquire vocational training. The work of Mr. Wilson, together with his associates, in investigating and reporting adversely on the Taylor and other systems of shop management, otherwise known as the speeding up process, was thorough and effective.

As a member of the Mines and Mining Committee he was successful in getting the Bureau of Mines act amended and strengthened.

Only the more important achievements of Mr. Wilson are here alluded to, but the record presented is sufficient to indicate the energy, faithfulness, and ability of the chairman of the Labor Committee. The record of no man serving his third term in Congress can excel that which has been made by Mr. Wilson. He has shown fidelity not only to the cause of labor, but has championed every measure which had for its purpose the protection of the rights of all the people.

The trade unionists of the entire country are extremely proud of the record made by Mr. Wilson, and rejoice in the fact that a coal miner, a trade unionist, whose life has been one of incessant and rigorous toil, has shown such conspicuous ability in the affairs of state.

DAVID JOHN LEWIS

David John Lewis, Democrat, from the Sixth District of Maryland, was born May 1, 1869, at Nuttals Bank, Center County, Pa., and began the mining of coal at nine years of age, and learned to read at Sunday School. He continued mining for fourteen years, and as a member of the Mine Workers' Union. During the years in which he was mining coal he pursued a study of the law, and was admitted to the bar in 1892.

Mr. Lewis is a member of two committees—the Committee on Labor and the Committee on Military Affairs. He was elected for the first time to the Sixty-second Congress. During his incumbency he has been of valuable assistance to the Labor Committee, and has actively championed all measures in the interest of labor.

Mr. Lewis is also a student of transportation, and is considered to be an authority on the question of transportation, so far as it has to deal with express and mail matter, and introduced a bill in Congress relative to the regulation of express companies. Upon the recent adoption of the post-office appropriation bill, which carries a provision, inaugurating a limited parcels post, Mr. Lewis was active in its support and suggested changes which were adopted.

For congressional purposes, a committee was also appointed to work out many intricate details in connection with the operation of a parcels post. Heretofore it has been customary in appointing committees of this character to select from the membership of committees having in charge matters to be investigated, but in this instance a request was made from the floor of the House that Mr. Lewis be appointed to this committee, owing to his wide and extensive knowledge of the subject to be investigated and put into operation.

We cannot express too great an appreciation of the work done in the interests of labor and humanity by the fifteen trade union members in the House of Representatives, by the Democratic members of both the House and Senate, as well as the assistance rendered by Progressive Republicans.

The Executive Council declares that the programme and policy, as carried on by the American Federation of Labor as authorized by its conventions, through the Executive Council, the Labor Representation Committee, and the organized workers throughout the country, is hereby reaffirmed and recommended to all, and urge that the programme and policy should be persistently pursued in the pending campaign of 1912 for the election of candidates for President, Congressmen, State Legislatures, and the Judiciary, in short, for all candidates for all political offices.

To our fellow-workers and fellow-citizens all over America, we urge that Trade Union Men be nominated and elected to Municipal, County, and State offices; that Trade Union Men represent its interests in the State Legislatures and in Congress.

Let organized labor's slogan live in its deeds—

> **Stand faithfully by our friends, oppose and defeat our enemies, whether they be candidates for President, for Congress or other offices, whether Executive, Legislative, or Judicial.**

Men of labor, stand true.

FRANK BUCHANAN

Frank Buchanan, Democrat, from the Seventh District of Illinois, located in Chicago, was born June 14, 1862. In his early life he worked on a farm, and later became a bridge builder and structural iron worker. He was elected the International President of the Brotherhood of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers in September, 1901, and served for four successive terms, and declined to be a candidate for re-election in 1905.

Mr. Buchanan has been active in the organized labor movement for many years, and never held a political office until elected to the Sixty-second Congress. He was a candidate for Congress in the election of 1908, but was defeated. Mr. Buchanan is a member of two committees, the Committee on Labor and the Committee on Naval Affairs. He has been a close student of all matters brought to the attention of Congress, and has been conspicuous in the regularity of his attendance on sessions in the House. Mr. Buchanan has rendered valuable assistance as a member of the Committee on Labor, and like other members of the labor group, has ever been ready and has given his support by word and by his vote to every measure in Congress which had even a remote bearing upon the question of labor.

He has been given the nomination again for Congress, and will make the race for membership in the Sixty-third Congress.

ISAAC R. SHERWOOD

Isaac R. Sherwood, Democrat, from the Ninth District of Ohio, was born in Stanford, Dutchess County, N. Y., August 13, 1835. Mr. Sherwood is a journalist by profession and is a member of the Typographical Union. He served in the civil war and was made a brevet-brigadier general by President Lincoln for long and faithful service and conspicuous gallantry in numerous battles. Prior to his coming to Congress, Gen. Sherwood, as he is called, was twice elected secretary of state of Ohio, three times elected judge, and was elected to the Forty-third, Sixtieth, and re-elected to the Sixty-first and Sixty-second Congresses.

Mr. Sherwood is a member of two committees, being chairman of the Invalid Pensions Committee and also a member of the Committee on Expenditures in the Navy Department.

During the present session of Congress Gen. Sherwood delivered one of the most brilliant and erudite speeches ever heard on the floor of the House of Representatives. It was a historical resume of the growing usurpation of the courts, and reviewed the contempt case of President Gompers, Vice President Mitchell, and Secretary Morrison, and severely criticised Justice Wright, of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, for imposing jail sentences on the Federation officials.

Gen. Sherwood was also the author of what was commonly termed the "dollar-a-day pension bill," which, with some modifications, has become a law.

Gen. Sherwood has been a consistent and active supporter of all measures in the interest of labor, as well as all other legislation of a humanitarian character.

JOHN RICHARD FARR

John Richard Farr, Republican, from the Tenth District of Pennsylvania, was born in Scranton, Pa., July 18, 1857. In early life he became a newsboy, and later a printer and publisher, and is a member of the Typographical Union. Prior to his coming to Congress he served four years on the Scranton school board, and five terms in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, and was speaker during the session of 1899. He was the author of the free school book and compulsory education laws of the State of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Farr was elected for the first time to the Sixty-second Congress. He is a member of two committees, the Committee on Claims, and the Committee on Education. He has given his loyal support to all measures in the interest of labor, and is a valued member of the labor group in Congress.

EDWARD EWING ROBERTS

Edward Ewing Roberts, Republican, from Nevada, was born at Pleasant Grove, Sutter County, Cal., December 12, 1870. Mr. Roberts was a metal miner and a member of the Miners' Union, but later on educated himself and taught school for several years in California and Nevada, pursuing at the same time the study of the law, and was elected District Attorney of Ormsby County, Nev., in 1896, and served in that capacity five terms.

Mr. Roberts is a member of two committees—the Committee on Alcoholic Liquor Traffic and the Committee on Irrigation of Arid Lands. Mr. Roberts has been active in his support of all measures in which labor was interested. He has been given the nomination for Congress again.

WILLIAM HUGHES

William Hughes, Democrat, from the Sixth District of New Jersey, was born in 1872. He was elected to the Fifty-eighth and re-elected to the Sixtieth, Sixty-first, and Sixty-second Congresses. In his early life he was a textile worker, but later on studied law, and is now an attorney. Mr. Hughes, at this time, is a candidate in the coming primaries for United States Senator from New Jersey. He was author of the eight-hour bill, which recently passed Congress, and has become a law. He is a member of only one committee, perhaps the most important committee in the House of Representatives, being that of the Ways and Means.

He has given valuable service in the interest of labor, and was the author of what is now known as the "Hughes amendment," in 1910, in the vote on which the then Republican House of Representatives went on record against the eight-hour law in the Panama Canal Zone. The record vote upon this amendment was the means of leaving "at home" many Congressmen, for the American Federation of Labor circulated millions of this record vote, and the trade unionists throughout the country responded, thereby defeating many of labor's enemies. In entering the primaries to seek the nomination for United States Senator, Mr. Hughes retires as a member of the House of Representatives on March 4 next.

ROBERT E. LEE

Robert E. Lee, Democrat, from the Twelfth district of Pennsylvania, was born in Schuylkill County, Pa. Mr. Lee was a blacksmith and worked at his trade for many years, being a member of his craft union. He was elected to the Sixty-second Congress from a district which has sent a Republican to Congress for many terms. Mr. Lee is the author of a bill which provides an extension of the Erdman act to include within its scope the coal miners of the country. The Erdman act now only applies to interstate transportation companies, and is, in effect, an arbitration plan.

Mr. Lee is chairman of the Mileage Committee of the House, and also a member of the Committee on Alcoholic Liquor Traffic, and also on the Naval Affairs Committee.

Mr. Lee has been active in his support of labor and humanitarian measures and has worked in hearty accord with the labor group in Congress.

WILLIAM JOSEPH CARY

William J. Cary, Republican, from the Fourth District of Wisconsin, was born in Milwaukee, March 22, 1865. At the age of thirteen he was left an orphan and began work as a messenger boy, and at the age of eighteen he was a telegraph operator, and is now a member of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union.

He was elected Alderman in Milwaukee in 1900 and re-elected in 1902. He was also elected Sheriff of Milwaukee County in 1904. He was nominated for Congress on the first trial of the Wisconsin primary election law and was elected to the Sixtieth Congress and re-elected to the Sixty-first and Sixty-second Congresses.

Mr. Cary is a member of two committees in the House, that of the District of Columbia and Committee on Education. Mr. Cary has been active in the affairs of the District of Columbia and has given his support to all labor measures and assisted the labor group consistently and continuously. He has again received the nomination for Congress.